



PTO/SB/30 (10/2001)

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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/917,385
Filing Date	July 27, 2001
First Named Inventor	Lisa A.G. Tweardy
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Gwen G. Phanliphand
Attorney Docket Number	1461-R-00

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR §1.114**

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR §1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☒ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iv. ☒ Other Three-Month Extension of Time

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR §1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-3405

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(e) 07/18/2003 RHEBRANT 00000075 09917385

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR §§1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:2801 375.00 OP

iii. ☐ Other 02 FC:2201 42.00 OP

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 417.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print / Type)

Joan T. Kluger

Registration No. (Attorney / Agent)

38,940

Signature

Joan T. Kluger

Date

July 15, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark

Name (Print / Type)

Joan T. Kluger

Signature

Joan T. Kluger

Date

July 15, 2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



22469

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 3731
Examiner : Gwen G. Phanijphand
Serial No. : 09/917,385
Filed : 7/27/01
Inventor : Lisa A.G. Tweardy
Title : CERAMIC-TIPPED
: SKULL PINS

Docket No.: 1461-R-00

Confirmation No.: 9974

Dated: July 15, 2003

AMENDMENT

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JUL 18 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER #3700

Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of allowance based on the following amendments and remarks:

In the Specification

(Clean Copy as Amended)

Please replace the last paragraph on page 7 with the following:

C The angle 36 between the tapered portions 26 is about 40° but can be in the range of about 30° to 50°. The angle must be chosen so that the angle is sufficiently small to be capable of holding the pin in place in the bone of the patient's skull, while not so small that the pin will break easily. The radius of rounded end 28 is between 0.025 and 0.075 mm, preferably between 0.04 and 0.06, and more preferably about 0.05 mm. The radius is chosen so that pin tip 14 does not slip out of the patient's bone, but yet the tip is